

Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions, Inc.

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Supporting Child Development

MIECHV Sites To Gather for Next CQI Learning Session in January

Drs. Anne Hogan and Michelle Duda will join FL MIECHV site teams at the next CQI Learning Session on Supporting Child Development January 18-19, 2018 in Cocoa Beach. The final meeting of this learning collaborative to increase developmental screening and improve follow-up on low scores will focus on infant mental health, coaching of staff and parents, as well as making changes stick!



Dr. Hogan led the FSU Harris Infant Mental Health (IMH) Training Institute from 2003-2013, and has continued to provide training and consultation on early childhood development and infant mental health foundations throughout Florida. Trained as an applied developmental psychologist, her early research and experience focused on social-emotional development in vulnerable infants and young children. Dr. Duda is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and the President of the innovative research and coaching firm, Implementation Scientists, LLC. Building from her extensive leadership experiences, she has a strong record of success in helping teams implement best and promising practices in the “real world.”

Local MIECHV site teams have been working on improvement strategies over the last year aimed at completing at least 90% of developmental screenings on time and offering timely referral to Early Steps (Part C) for any needed follow-up. Sites have submitted PDSA plans and tracked results, and received ongoing support through monthly webinars.

Florida

Maternal, Infant & Early Childhood Home Visiting Initiative

2016-2017



1,983
Families
Served



1,590
Children
Served



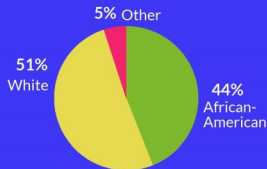
22,659
Home
Visits

Who We Reach

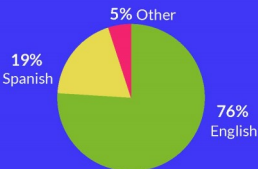
MIECHV Serves High-Need Families

- 76% Low Income (100% FPL)
- 18% Pregnant & Under Age 21
- 21% History of Child Abuse/Neglect
- 16% History of Substance Abuse
- 30% Low Student Achievement
- 5% Experiencing Homelessness

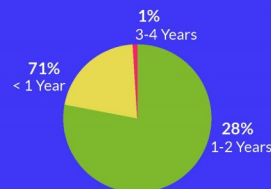
Participant Race



Primary Language



Age of Children



Our Impact



78%

Of New Mothers Received a Postpartum Check-up from their Medical Providers



81%

Of Participants Were Screened for Depression



89%

Of New Mothers Breastfed their Babies & 34% Continued for 6 Months or More



81%

Of Children Received a Developmental Screening



90%

Of Participants Were Screened for Intimate Partner Violence



98%

Of Children Had No Investigated Reports of Maltreatment

Focus on Early Language and Literacy

Providing children from birth with consistent, language-rich experiences – such as talking, reading, and singing – contributes to their brain development and future school success. Many families, however, lack the resources that can help them provide their children with these language building experiences. Researchers have documented a 30 million “word gap” between children from the



wealthiest and poorest families. These and other studies have linked poor early literacy skills to lifelong academic, social and income disparities.

An important goal of the federal Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program is to increase school readiness and achievement among participating families.

Performance Measure 11 tracks how frequently and consistently families are supporting early

language development by reading, telling stories and singing to their children. In 2016-17, only 56% of families enrolled in FL MIECHV reported reading, telling stories or singing with their child daily during a typical week. Many of these families face challenges with educational attainment themselves - a third of caregivers have not graduated from high school or earned a GED.

Home visitors play a key role in helping parents understand the importance of these activities even for babies and very young children. They can also connect families with valuable resources, provide books and share learning activities.

Performance Measure 11:

Percent of children enrolled in home visiting with a family member who reported that during a typical week s/he read, told stories, and/or sang songs with their child daily, every day

WORD GAP BY AGE 3

[illegible]

ON AVERAGE
ECONOMICALLY **ADVANTAGED** CHILDREN KNOW
1100 WORDS

ECONOMICALLY **DISADVANTAGED** CHILDREN KNOW
500 WORDS

SOURCE: ADAPTED FROM BETTY HART AND TODD R. RISLEY, MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCES IN THE EVERYDAY EXPERIENCE OF YOUNG AMERICAN CHILDREN (BALTIMORE, MD: ENLL-H, BROOKLYN, 1995).



Resources

**Talk, Read, and Sing
Together Every Day!**
*Tip Sheets (English &
Spanish) for Families,
Caregivers and Early
Learning Educators*

Talking is Teaching!

Vroom!
Features free parent
app with daily activities

Talk With Me Baby: Early Start to Literacy

The Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign (FGLRC) is proudly rolling out Florida's promotion of **Talk With Me Baby** (TWMB), a website collection of research, parent resources and online trainings developed by the Talk With Me Baby™ team. This convening of six leadership organizations in Georgia came together to bring the concept of language nutrition into public awareness and educate caregivers on the importance of talking with their baby every day, in an effort to close the word gap.

In partnership with the [Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy](#), TWMB developed an online toolkit to bring this model to scale. Jenn Faber, Director of FGLRC, is working with state and community partners in bringing Talk With Me Baby presentations to communities throughout Florida. FL MIECHV is working with Faber to schedule TWMB presentations for home visitors in 2018.



USF Evaluation Team Presents at National Meeting

FL MIECHV's evaluation team at the University of South Florida presented their work at the 2017 American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo last month. Led by Dr. Jennifer Marshall, the team participated in poster sessions and workshops at the national public health conference.

Presentations included “Multilevel survival analysis of participant survival in the Florida Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program,” by Dr. Rema Ramakrishnan, an analysis of factors impacting family retention. Other presentations focused on the ECCS Impact Project, and staff and organizational readiness for implementing new interventions for parental mental health.

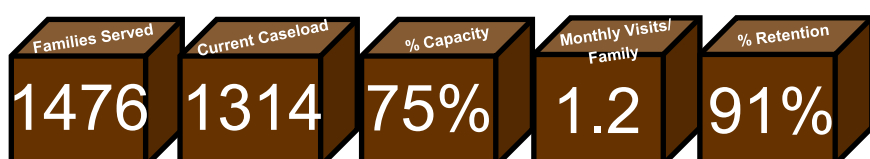


USF evaluation team members Omotola (Tola) Balogun and Oluwatosin (Tosin) Aaisope.



Save the Date!

2018 First 1000 Days Florida Conference
September 26-28, 2018 • Palm Beach



Source: Based on October, 2017–November, 2017 reports from four LIA cohorts (April, 2013, October 2013, October, 2015 and April, 2017).

Father Friendly Survey: Improvement Needed

In September, representatives from Florida MIECHV, Healthy Families Florida, and Healthy Start completed the [National Fatherhood Initiative's \(NFI\) Father Friendly Check-Up™ \(FFCU\)](#). The FFCU is designed to assess how ready each site is to engage fathers and whether the culture in each site provides the supportive environment necessary to effectively engage fathers – it consists of four assessment categories: Leadership Development, Organizational Development, Program Development, and Community Engagement.

The results have been analyzed and NFI presented them to the field earlier this month, including their recommendations for next steps. Florida MIECHV sites averaged 60% in Leadership Development, compared to a state average of 64%; 64% in Organizational Development, compared to a state average of 67%; 57% in Program Development, compared to a state average of 60%; and 54% in Community Engagement, which was also the state average. Florida MIECHV sites' overall average was 59%, compared to a state average of 62%.

Members of the Fatherhood Engagement Advisory Group will reconvene to discuss these recommendations and begin work on a statewide action plan to improve father engagement in each of the assessment categories.



FL ECCS Participates in Community Indicators Meet

Florida ECCS Impact participated in the Community Indicators Consortium (CIC) Impact Summit held recently in St. Petersburg. The Summit focused on exploring the role of data in supporting community change. The Summit addressed specific issues of interest including: Place-Based Initiatives, Child and Family Well-Being, Power and Equity, Community Development/ Wealth Building, and Advanced Data Methods.



Ghia Kelly, ECCS Project Manager, and the USF Evaluation Team co-facilitated a workshop on the Florida ECCS Impact Project and evaluation strategies for place-based initiatives.

Participants also toured the [Lake Maggiore Shores Place-Based Initiative](#), a 48-block neighborhood in St. Petersburg that is activating the power of their neighborhood to lead comprehensive community change so that all “neighborbabies” - babies and young children up to age 5- are thriving.

Partnership Targets Social Determinants of Health

FL MIECHV is partnering with [Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc.](#) to provide a monthly webinar series addressing the social determinants of health— factors outside of healthcare that impact a family’s health and well-being. This training is intended to help home childhood programs families address key social including access to care, and special education. It on legal aid resources state to assist families.



With a growing social and environmental

well-being, health care providers are forming [Medical-Legal Partnerships](#) with legal aid attorneys to seek out solutions at the individual and policy levels.

The webinars are scheduled for the fourth Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Register at: www.ounce.org/Miechv/. Links to past webinars are available in MIECHV LMS.

visitors and other early understand and help determinants of health, income security, housing will also provide information available throughout the

understanding of how factors impact health and

Pinellas PAT Shares Strategies for Supporting Substance-Affected Families at National Meeting

PAT+ Pinellas recently presented at the national Parents As Teachers conference in Philadelphia. Their session, *Creating Collaborations to Serve Challenging Situations*, highlighted the program’s work with substance-involved pregnant and parenting women. The session focused on the successes and challenges of the program’s latest collaborations with Operation PAR (substance recovery program), MAPS (methadone clinic) and Alpha House (teen pregnancy shelter). While using the PAT curriculum, PAT+ created these community collaborations to serve the specific needs of its population. The session included information about creating a basic Memorandum of Understanding, understanding the mental health issues of substance involvement and using the PAT Group Connection to foster trust and allow clients to “let their guard down” through creative expression.



PAT+ Parent Educators Melinda Pierce, LCSW, & Bobbi Stephens, RN.



MIECHV Reauthorization Efforts Stalled

Negotiations on reauthorizing MIECHV and several other programs have stalled as Congress wrestles with tax reform and continued funding to prevent a government shut-down. The challenge is finding a way to pay for the continuation of these important programs. It appears that MIECHV will not be included in a package to renew the Children’s Health Insurance Program. Home visiting advocates continue to work with state leaders in urging Congress to act before year end.



**Feliz
NAVIDAD**

**Happy
Holidays!**

Jwaye Nwele



MIECHV sites & families celebrate!



Congratulations Grads!

Congratulations Broward & Northeast Florida (NEF) NFP graduates! Twenty-five parents and toddlers- including a set of twins- recently celebrated their accomplishments in Broward. In Northeast Florida, graduating families were honored in a special ceremony which featured presentations by families, fathers and guests.

Both sites recently received funding from FL MIECHV to expand their programs. Broward and NEF NFP served 193 and 152 families respectively in 2016-17.

ABOUT FLORIDA MIECHV

Florida is implementing the federal Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Initiative through a public-private partnership. Led by the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions, Inc., the goal of the initiative is to improve health & developmental outcomes for at-risk children through evidence-based home visiting programs. State implementation partners include the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida, FSU Center for Prevention & Early Intervention Policy, and USF Lawton & Rhea Chiles Center. For more information contact Carol Brady, Project Director, cbrady@fahsc.org or visit www.FLMIECHV.com.

